

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7483**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1500

**DATE PREPARED:** Dec 28, 2000

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Withheld Judgments in Criminal Cases.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Mark Goodpaster

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-9852

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**      **GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill allows a trial court to withhold judgment if a defendant has pleaded guilty.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** Some counties reportedly delay sentencing criminal defendants who have been found guilty of a crime if they participate in programs offered by either the courts or the prosecuting attorneys of these counties. Defendants who comply with the conditions set by the court and the prosecuting attorney can avoid incarceration. Programs such as these can reduce the number of offenders who would otherwise be incarcerated in county jails.

If this practice is included in statute and more courts withhold judgment and delay sentencing, then the number of offenders entering county jails may be reduced.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local jails.

**Information Sources:** Lighty v. State of Indiana, 727 N.E. 2d 1094.